

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/EP2004/014603

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 G01N21/05 G01N21/25

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G01N

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, INSPEC, COMPENDEX, BIOSIS

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	DE 24 45 148 A1 (COULTER ELECTRONICS INC; COULTER ELECTRONICS INC., HIALEAH, FLA.) 1 April 1976 (1976-04-01) the whole document	1-5
Y		6-22
X	US 5 883 721 A (GILBY ET AL) 16 March 1999 (1999-03-16) column 4, line 20 - column 5, line 11; figures 1-3	1-5
Y		6-22
		-/-

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex.

° Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

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Date of the actual completion of the international search

5 April 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

27/04/2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Hoogen, R

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	KACHEL V ET AL: "UNIFORM LATERAL ORIENTATION, CAUSED BY FLOW FORCES, OF FLAT PARTICLES IN FLOW-THROUGH SYSTEMS" JOURNAL OF HISTOCHEMISTRY AND CYTOCHEMISTRY, HISTOCHEMICAL SOCIETY, NEW YORK, NY, US, vol. 25, no. 7, 1977, pages 774-780; XP002915897 ISSN: 0022-1554 pages 774-776	1-5
Y	WO 02/075285 A (E.I. DU PONT DE NEMOURS AND COMPANY) 26 September 2002 (2002-09-26) page 14, line 16 - page 16, line 23; figures 9,11-15	6-22
Y	DE 101 49 780 A1 (BYK-GARDNER GMBH) 30 April 2003 (2003-04-30) paragraphs '0165! - '0168!; figure 8	6-22

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

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